

WEATHER.
Rain tonight and tomorrow; somewhat warmer tonight; colder tomorrow afternoon.
Forecast for twenty-four hours ended at 2 p. m. today: Highest, 49, at 8:30 a. m. yesterday; lowest, 29, at 8:45 a. m. today.

Closing N. Y. Stocks and Bonds, Page 24
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BRITISH DECLINE TO REINVOUGH ON RIGHTS IN MOSUL

Lord Curzon Informs Turks Prolongation of Near East Conference Will Not Help.

REUTER'S SAYS PARLEY MAY BECOME ABORTIVE

Entente Delegates Ignore Protest of Ismet Pasha Against Hearing Armenians' Plea.

LONDON, December 27.—A Reuter's dispatch from Lausanne says: "There is serious danger of the near east conference becoming abortive if the Turks persist in their present method."

LATZANNE, December 27.—Great Britain, through Foreign Secretary Lord Curzon, has informed Turkey today that the British never will abandon the Mosul vilayet, as requested by the Turkish delegation, and that no prolongation of the near east conference can influence the British government to recede from the position it has taken on this matter.

The British position is outlined in a letter sent by Lord Curzon to Ismet Pasha, head of the Turkish delegation, covering the formal reply of the British delegation to the Turkish note of Sunday last, which insisted Mosul belonged to Turkey.

Lord Curzon said in this letter that the British government had expelled the Turks from the Mosul area and occupied and administered it. The British had pledged to free the Arabs from Turkish rule and establish the government of Iraq, and given her word that the Arabs would not be interfered with.

Will Not Recede.

Lord Curzon added that Great Britain had given her solemn pledge to let no foreign power take any part of this territory and that she would steadfastly adhere to her promise.

The foreign secretary said, however, that Great Britain was prepared to have her experts meet the Turkish experts to define the northern boundary of the Iraq.

The British delegation's formal reply to the Ottoman note questions the reliability of the statistics put forth by the Turks to justify their claim to Mosul. It also pointed out that this district for centuries they never collected exact information, it was pointed out that the British could be placed in their statistics.

The British note concludes: "The British government reiterates its refusal to contemplate the surrender of the Mosul vilayet and is unable to see any advantage which could result from such a surrender."

In discussing what Lord Curzon meant by the statement in his letter that the British delegation was ready to have its experts discuss with the Turkish experts the precise tracing of the northern boundary of the Mosul vilayet, the British spokesman said this merely meant that the British delegation stands ready to adjust the northern boundary to move it a few miles south if the Turks so desire, to give a more natural and more easily defensible frontier.

Kurdish Revolt Cited.

The British reply cited instances of Kurdish revolts against Turkish rule and denied absolutely the Turkish claim that the Kurds and the Turks are identical and should be treated as one people.

Lord Curzon's letter also stated that the British were ready to have the Kurdish districts in the Mosul vilayet autonomy in cases where this was desired.

Armenia was the storm center of the near east conference yesterday. The British refused to attend a meeting of the subcommittee which had arranged to hear the plea of the Armenians for the establishment of a national home in the Mosul vilayet.

Ismet Pasha and Riza Nur Bey sent strongly worded communications to the conference protesting against the decision to allow the Armenians to state their case.

The British declared that if the Armenians, who had no official standing and represented no independent government, were heard by the conference, it would be a precedent.

SOON TO FILL VACANCY ON THE SUPREME BENCH

President Expected to Name Justice Pitney's Successor Within Few Days.

President Harding is expected to send to the Senate within the next few days the nomination of a successor to Justice Pitney of the Supreme Court, who has tendered his resignation, to take effect January 1. Retirement of Justice Pitney will create the fourth vacancy on the Supreme Court bench which President Harding has called upon to fill.

Two names, those of Gov. Miller of New York, recently defeated in re-election, and Chief Justice Robert von Moschizker of the Pennsylvania supreme court, have been most prominently mentioned as possible successors to Justice Pitney. It is reported, however, that Gov. Miller has indicated that he is not a candidate for the appointment. Chief Justice von Moschizker recently was in Washington for a conference with the President, and his friends confidently predict that he will be selected.

Justice Pierce Butler, recently nominated to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Justice Day, will, it is expected, take the oath when the court reassembles Monday after a three-week recess. During the coming week the question of liquor on ships will come up for argument. Because of the importance of this litigation and a number of other cases which are awaiting argument before the bench, President Harding is said to desire to fill the Pitney vacancy at an early date.

Coming to U. S. To Ease Burden Of British Debt

DECLARES AMERICA SHOULD HAVE WAY

Supremely Important in Settling Europe's Financial Ills, Says Baldwin.

SAILS FOR U. S. TODAY

Funding of British Debt Will Be Taken Up Upon His Arrival Here.

LONDON, December 27.—The British financial mission to the United States, headed by Stanley Baldwin, chancellor of the exchequer, sailed for New York this morning on the liner Majestic. Besides the chancellor, the party included Mrs. Baldwin, governor of the Bank of England; Rowley Dutton, financial advisor, and P. J. Grigg of the treasury. It is expected that the mission will return about the end of January.

Estimates British Payments.

In a statement to the Evening Standard today Mr. Baldwin pointed out that under the present arrangements Great Britain's payments to the United States would amount to between \$60,000,000 and \$70,000,000 annually.

"We hope to fund this debt," he said, "and get the burden of interest eased. If it is successful I hope America will be kind to a much more important mission which Mr. Bonar Law is shortly to undertake."

The Evening Standard says this latter refers to a reparations settlement.

The chancellor added that it is of supreme importance to Europe that America should have her way as regards Europe's financial problem.

Text of Baldwin Statement.

Mr. Baldwin's statement follows: "My mission concerns only I. O. U.'s held by the United States and is a delicate one. We are in the position of debtors. We must tread warily. Nevertheless, I hope to persuade the United States government to come to a permanent settlement on the terms of our debt to America of something like \$256,000,000.

"At present a law of Congress provides that this must be repaid within twenty-five years at 4 1/2 per cent interest. This would mean an annual payment by Great Britain of between \$80,000,000 and \$70,000,000—a very heavy item in our budget. We hope to fund this debt and get the burden of interest eased. In any case, the last word is with America.

Hints at 'Greater Problems.'

"If we can effect a settlement on such a matter we shall set an example to Europe, an example which might well be an augury for the settlement of even greater problems than this one—international problems.

"If I am successful I hope America, having seen the result of one mission, will be kind enough to the much more important mission which Mr. Bonar Law is shortly to undertake (the word 'reparations' was here parenthetically inserted by the newspaper) and which is more difficult than mine.

"It is of supreme importance to Europe that America should have a say in the many perplexing matters now engaging the attention of statesmen."

TINY SPLINTER FROM TRUE CROSS GIVEN TO PRESIDENT HARDING

Wax and Inclosed in a gold box set with diamonds. The archbishop acted in the ceremony as the representative of the state government and made the presentation as a recognition of the interest taken by the United States in the Holy Sepulchre in the Holy City.

The archbishop was accompanied to the White House by Bishop Harding and Soterios N. Nicholson, a local attorney.

EX-MAYOR FIGHTS EXTRADITION WRIT IN LAKE MURDERS

Dr. McKoin Held by Baltimore Authorities on Request From Louisiana.

NO ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE, SAYS PRISONER'S LAWYER

Physician Remained Near Scene for Many Weeks, He Declares.

BALTIMORE, Md., December 27.—In an effort to obtain bail before commencing his fight against extradition, Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge, La., who was arrested here yesterday at the request of Gov. Parker of Louisiana, obtained a writ of habeas corpus in the city court. Gov. Parker accused Dr. McKoin of murder.

The writ was made returnable immediately, but upon petition of Dr. McKoin's counsel, former United States District Attorney Robert R. Carman, the hearing was postponed until tomorrow, and Dr. McKoin was taken back to his cell.

A short time before, in central police court, Dr. McKoin's case was adjourned by Justice Stansel until January 8, at the request of the detectives working on the case.

This was to permit time for the preparation and forwarding of necessary documents from Louisiana. Gov. Parker had telegraphed the police department, asking for ten days' delay in the extradition proceedings, adding that the requisition papers would be forwarded.

To Seek Extradition.

Extradition papers will be forwarded from Louisiana to Baltimore for Dr. McKoin, a telegram from Gov. Parker stated today.

The dispatch, sent to the police department, said: "Hold Dr. McKoin for extradition. Papers will be forwarded. Thanks."

Accordingly, papers were prepared for extradition. Dr. McKoin's hearing in police court, asking that he be held for ten days.

Dr. Hugh H. Yobng, head of the Brady Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital, with whom Dr. McKoin was held for more than an hour this morning.

Former United States District Attorney Robert R. Carman, who is counsel for Dr. McKoin said that he would fight any effort at extradition on the part of the Governor of Louisiana.

Defends Ex-Mayor.

The former district attorney declared he believed that there was no prima facie charge of murder against the former mayor and he expressed the belief that the Louisiana officials called for his arrest here because they wanted him more as a witness or for the purpose of obtaining possible information from him.

Upon the request of Attorney Carman Judge Gorter postponed the habeas corpus hearing until tomorrow.

McKoin Is Silent.

Dr. McKoin made no statement in police court, but in conversation with the assembled reporters he repeated previous denials of implication in the murders or any connection with the kidnapping. If his arrest were made in connection with the deaths of Daniels and Richards, he could prove his alibi, he declared, adding that he could account for every hour of his time prior to the kidnapping of Daniels and Richards and every minute since their mysterious disappearance.

"Had the Louisiana authorities gone about the matter in a different way, he said, 'I would have gone to Mer Rouge and assisted them in any way that I could. Now I will go there only by force.'

"To meet this rush of work the building office during the past six months has taken on ten temporary employes as inspectors and computers. This was made possible by the granting of a special appropriation of \$20,000 by Congress.

The estimates now before Congress for the next fiscal year show an increase of approximately \$1,400 in the total appropriation for the building office.

This year the office obtained its regular allotment of \$37,630 and an additional \$20,000 for temporary employes, making \$57,630. The new estimates recommend \$58,230, of which \$10,000 is a lump sum for temporary employes.

SEE \$42,000,000 1923 D. C. BUILDING

Operations During Year to Smash Records, Say Engineer Estimates.

INCREASE OF \$7,000,000

Inspection Force Augmented as Demands for Permits Grow.

Building operations in Washington will reach an aggregate of close to \$42,000,000 during 1923, smashing all previous records, according to an estimate of the engineer department, it became known today.

If the prediction comes true it will mean an increase of \$7,000,000 in construction work above the record of \$35,596,978 for the current year. Not all of this money will be spent on new projects, as a considerable percentage of it represents repairs to existing buildings.

The total value of building permits issued in Washington annually has increased by leaps and bounds since the war period. In 1917, the year this country entered the war, building permits aggregated \$15,513,075. Then followed a slump due to the war restrictions placed on non-essential construction work. In 1918 the valuation fell to \$10,164,457. The following year there was a slight rise again to \$10,500,866.

Value More Than Doubled.

When the year 1920 closed the records showed that the value of permits issued had more than doubled, reaching \$22,659,452. In 1921 there was another slight setback, the total for that year being \$19,025,291. This followed a slump due to the war restrictions placed on non-essential construction work. In 1918 the valuation fell to \$10,164,457. The following year there was a slight rise again to \$10,500,866.

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SOVIET DEMANDS PART IN MEMEL SETTLEMENT

Warns Allies Any Arrangement Which Russia Is No Partner Will Not Be Recognized.

MOSCOW, December 27.—Maxim Litvinoff, acting foreign minister, has sent a note to Great Britain, France and Italy regarding the settlement of the fate of the Memel territory.

The note asserts that any decision in which Russia is not a partner will not be recognized. M. Litvinoff emphasizes the importance of Memel to Russia's lumber industry, for which the port is the gateway to the world market.

Memel, located on the Baltic sea, was internationalized by the treaty of Versailles. The territory formerly belonged to Germany.

TWO BURN TO DEATH.

One Other Missing in North Carolina Boarding House Fire.

GASTONIA, N. C., December 27.—Two men were burned to death and one other is missing as a result of a fire which destroyed the Underwood boarding house and several other buildings at Bessemer City, near here, according to reports from here.

Two bodies found in the ruins were identified last night as those of John D. Hough and his stepson, Mack Hopper, while E. J. Eddings was missing after the fire. Mrs. Hough was seriously hurt in leaping from a second-story window, and it was feared her injuries might be fatal.



Camouflaged Rum Carriers And Fancy Flasks Denounced

Reform Leaders Plan Boycott on Sale of All Accessories to Liquor Drinking as Check to Trade in Contraband Liquor.

A nation-wide boycott on the distribution of all accessories to the liquor habit.

That is the sensational action now being considered by leaders of the various reform organizations, whose national representatives remain in Washington to keep in close touch with the nation's lawmakers.

Never before in the history of the United States has there been such a jammied through the eighteenth amendment—will be sweeping in character. Every church member in the United States every advocate of law observance, will be called on to participate.

"The boycott, if and when finally made effective, will be the most ironclad ever designed and will drive the purveyors of unlawful containers out of business," is the manner in which the reform associations today explained the plan.

Dr. Wilbur F. Crafts, noted religious lecturer and reformer and superintendent of the International Reform Bureau, which he founded, died at 9 o'clock today at George Washington University Hospital of pneumonia. He was to have celebrated his seventy-third birthday January 12.

Dr. Crafts had a world-wide reputation as a champion of prohibition and as a foe of gambling, pugilism, the race track and the drug evil. He has been credited with having proposed at least eighteen acts of Congress of a reform character, including war prohibition, the Kenyon red-light injunction law and the act forbidding interstate shipment of prize fight films.

When He Returned From Ohio.

He returned, Ill, from Youngstown, Ohio, last Friday night and went to his home at 206 Pennsylvania avenue southeast, which is also the location of the reform bureau. His condition at the time was not thought to be serious. His illness remained unchanged Saturday, but he took a turn for the worse Sunday, and Monday morning it was decided to take him to the hospital. Last night physicians held a consultation, as a result of which it was realized that the pneumonia was too deep-seated to hold out much hope for recovery. His wife, Mrs. Crafts, the only member of his family, did not reach his bedside before death.

Funeral Services Tomorrow.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Metropolitan Presbyterian Church, 4th and B streets southeast. Rev. Freely Rohrer, pastor, will officiate. Interment will be in the Crafts family burial lot at Westover, R. I.

Dr. Crafts observed the fifty-fourth anniversary of his career as a preacher and reformer August 25 last. His militant defiance of all that he believed to be detrimental to the welfare of the American people won for him a wide circle of friends in every walk of life, and of course, on the other hand, made him the objective of frequent denunciation by those whom he championed against.

Dr. Crafts was born of New England Methodist parents in Maine, about the time that the enactment of the Maine prohibition law, sponsored by Neal Dow, was accomplished. The youth was thus reared in what was then the only

trade in gold and silver whisky flasks, cocktail shakers, engraved whisky glasses, as has marked the present holiday season. And it was asserted by several of the men and women who are investigating the matter that in this line of goods alone there has been no cut in prices because Christmas shopping was over.

Bitter in Views.

Then men who want this line of goods taken out of open sale are bitter in their views. They frankly assert this line of business is worse than the open sale of firearms. Also, they declare, a noble art is being prostituted for gain. The workmanship of these liquor containers is of the best. Every fully engraved and decorated tumbler are on display in show windows throughout the country. Individually they are sought by the persons who want to buy them for their own use or for

BATTLE ON BORAH PARLEY PROPOSAL OPENED IN SENATE

Lodge Opens Attack for Administration and Idahoan and John Sharp Williams Defend.

POINT OF ORDER PLANNED TO STRANGLE AMENDMENT

Thirty-Two Senators Meet With Republican Leader and Agree on Parliamentary Procedure to Kill Clause.

Administration forces in the Senate today launched their attack upon the Borah proposal for an international economic conference, and the supporters of the proposal fought back.

Senator Lodge, the republican leader and chairman of the foreign relations committee, urged the Senate to reject the proposal for an economic conference and also the proposal for a further conference on the limitation of armaments.

He declared that the administration was giving serious attention to the economic situation. He declared also, that if the Senate should vote to request the President to call an economic conference, the scope of that conference should be defined; that the foreign debts owed the United States should be excluded from consideration, and that the question of the German reparations, and how far the conference should deal with them, should be made known, as well as to what extent new American loans to European nations would be discussed.

Senator Borah asserted emphatically that the economic conditions abroad had progressed to such an extent that it affected every farmer, every business man and every home in the United States. He declared that it was essential the matter should be given consideration. He denied that his proposal would in any way limit or embarrass the administration in its negotiations with foreign nations.

Williams Against Isolation.

Senator Williams, of Mississippi, demanded that the United States could not isolate itself from the rest of the world. He predicted the day would come when the American people would follow the policies advocated by Woodrow Wilson in the league of nations covenant.

Earlier in the day Senator Lodge's office it was determined to fight the conference over an economic conference, and to attack it first along parliamentary lines. A point of order was proposed against the amendment is new and general legislation sought to be attached to an appropriation bill against the rules of the Senate. Thirty-two senators attended this meeting, one-third of the Senate membership.

It is not clear what the senator meant that the negotiation of a treaty would override a law of Congress without its assent to Congress, demanded Senator Borah.

Too Broadly Drawn.

"It is broadly drawn. It has no boundaries. It seems to me that if we are to consider it at all for action here in the Senate we ought to know before we do it exactly what powers the proposed conference is to have and to what extent it would override the law of Congress."

"I do not think a senator mean that the negotiation of a treaty would override a law of Congress without its assent to Congress," demanded Senator Borah.

"Of course, the treaty would have to be ratified by the Senate. But we would understand the conference, and we ought to tell the nations invited just what we will concede to and what we will not concede to. We should say just what we mean."

It seems to me that the debts due to the United States should be excluded from the matters which might be discussed at the proposed conference, and that the United States should deal with this subject of the limitation of armaments, and the fate of these debts should be settled by other powers.

Should Make Stand Clear.

"Under the powers of this conference we should be called upon to take up the reparations commission. We seek no reparations. But if the question of reparations were called up and we entered upon a revision of the reparations we might be asked to take part in a revision of the treaty of Versailles. We should make it clear to the nations how we stand in regard to this matter."

"Such a conference probably would have power to consider advances of large sums of money by the United States to help Germany or France. I do not know how far the Senate feels it should consent to such loans, but if we are to propose such a conference there should be some distinct statement of our attitude in this matter."

"There are many other questions involved, possibly, in which the United States could do in an economic conference. How far are we to be called upon to aid Austria, Asia Minor and perhaps Russia? I am not arguing the merits of these questions, but merely suggesting that we should know how far we are going and what we are going to do before we go into conference. Let's have an economic conference, but when the nations are invited to attend, let them know there should be no misunderstanding on the part of the nations of our attitude before we go into conference."

Senator Lodge said there were many questions which inevitably would come before the conference.

Other Nations Collected.

Speaking for himself, he said he could not state precisely what the United States could do in an economic conference. He had no word of reflection upon other countries which had suffered and sacrificed so much for all, but he said, they had all received advantages upon the conclusion of the war. They have taken over immense territories in Africa, Asia Minor; they have rid the world of some of its most

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